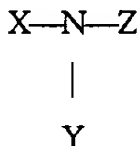


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 A method for ameliorating redness or inflammation of mammalian skin by topically applying a composition comprising:

- 5 (a) an effective amount of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of an alkanolamine; tyrosine; or a mixture thereof; and  
(b) a cosmetically acceptable carrier;

wherein said alkanolamine has the following general formula:



15 wherein X, Y and Z are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl group, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkanol group, wherein at least one of X, Y or Z is a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkanol group bearing at least one hydroxyl group and optionally at least one carboxyl group.

20 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said alkanolamine is selected from the group consisting of ethylaminoethanol, methylaminoethanol, dimethylaminoethanolamine, isopropanolamine, triethanolamine, isopropanoldimethylamine, ethylethanolamine, 2-butanolamine, choline and serine.

25 3. A method according to claim 2, wherein said alkanolamine is dimethylaminoethanol.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one compound is present in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 10% by weight of the composition.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein said composition comprises a mixture of from about 1 to about 5% by weight of alkanolamine and from about 1 to about 5% by weight of tyrosine.

Sub B2/ 6. A method according to claim 1, wherein said composition further comprises a skin irritating ingredient.

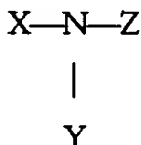
Sub A2 7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the irritating ingredient is selected from a retinoid, benzoyl peroxide, alpha - hydroxyacids and derivatives thereof, salicylic acid, surfactants, soaps, natural plant extracts, sunscreen actives, urea, preservatives.

8. A method according to claim 1, wherein said composition is applied to red or inflamed skin.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein said composition is applied to sun burned skin, wind burned skin, or skin that is red or inflamed due to contact with irritating soaps or cleansers.

Sub B3 10. A method according to claim 8, wherein said composition is applied to skin that is red or inflamed due to rosacea, atopic dermatitis, or allergic skin reactions.

11. A method for ameliorating the irritating effects of a skin irritating composition comprising adding to said composition an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of an alkanolamine; tyrosine; or a mixture thereof; wherein said alkanolamine has the following general formula:



wherein X, Y and Z are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl group, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkanol group, wherein at least one of X, Y or Z is a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkanol group bearing at least one hydroxyl group and optionally at least one carboxyl group.

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*Sub  
A3*

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein said alkanolamine is selected from the group consisting of ethylaminoethanol, methylaminoethanol, dimethylaminoethanolamine, isopropanolamine, triethanolamine, isopropanoldimethylamine, ethylethanolamine, 2-butanolamine, choline and serine.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein said alkanolamine is dimethylaminoethanol.

14. A method according to claim 11, wherein said at least one compound is present in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 10% by weight of the composition.

15. A method according to claim 11, wherein said composition comprises a mixture of from about 1 to about 5% by weight of alkanolamine and from about 1 to about 5% by weight of tyrosine.

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*Sub  
A4*

16. A method according to claim 11, wherein the skin irritating composition comprises an irritant selected from a retinoid, benzyol peroxide, alpha-hydroxyacids and derivatives thereof, salicylic acid, surfactants, soaps, natural plant extracts, sunscreen actives, urea, and preservatives.